# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ex rel.	)	
State Engineer,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	No. 69cv07941 BB-ACE
V.	)	Rio Chama Stream Adjudication
	)	Section 7: Tierra Amarilla, Rio Brazos,
	)	Rutheron and Plaza Blanca, Cañones Creek
	)	Village of Chama
ROMAN ARAGON et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

# THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY REPORT TO THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

The Jicarilla Apache Nation ("Nation"), by and through its attorneys, the Nordhaus Law Firm, LLP, hereby moves the Court to grant a one-month extension of time for the Nation to submit to the Office of the State Engineer ("OSE") a Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report and to grant a corresponding one-month extension of time for the OSE to complete an initial review of the Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report, and for the OSE to complete field inspections. In support of this motion the Nation asserts:

- 1. On January 16, 2007, the Court entered a Scheduling and Procedural Order Governing the Outstanding Water Rights Claims of the Jicarilla Apache Nation (Doc. 8531) setting out a schedule for planned hydrographic survey work to be conducted by the Nation to inventory its water uses on certain Jicarilla Apache Nation lands in the Chama area ("Chama lands").
- 2. On August 28, 2007, the Court granted a two-week extension for the Nation to deliver to the OSE a Draft Hydrographic Survey Report and a corresponding two-week extension for the

OSE to provide the Nation with its comments on the Draft Hydrographic Survey Report (Doc. 8777).

- 3. The previous extension granted by the Court did not change the remainder of the schedule under the initial Scheduling and Procedural Order, and pursuant to that Order, the scheduled date for the Nation to submit to the OSE a Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report is December 31, 2007.
- 4. The Nation's consultants have conducted field work, the OSE has commented on the Draft Hydrographic Survey Report, and the Nation's consultants are currently preparing and revising the Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report.
- 5. Prior to field work, it was estimated that there would be approximately 40 water features to be inventoried on the Nation's Chama lands, but during field work the Nation's consultants identified over 100 features to inventory.
- 6. Additional time is needed to prepare the Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report including information on priority dates for water features, and to take into account the comments of the OSE hydrographic bureau staff regarding the Draft Hydrographic Survey Report.
- 7. Counsel for the State has been contacted regarding this extension and does not object, provided that the State is granted an extension of an equal amount of time for its review and comment on the Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report and for field inspections to the extent deemed necessary by the hydrographic survey staff of the OSE.
- 8. The Nation also wishes to inform the Court that subsequent to completion of field work, the Nation's consultants were informed of approximately 50 additional features located on the Chama Ranch (one of the four parcels that constitute the Nation's Chama lands), and the Nation has not yet determined whether it may be necessary for its consultants to visit these features prior to

completing an inventory of all water features on the Nation's Chama Ranch. If it is determined to

be necessary to visit some or all of these features, or to the extent that the features cannot be

addressed in the Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report, the Nation will confer with the State and

submit to the Court a proposed schedule for addressing these features.

Wherefore, the Nation respectfully requests that the Court extend, until January 31, 2008, the

scheduled date for the Nation to submit a Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report to the

hydrographic survey staff of the OSE. The Nation further requests that the Court extend, until June

30, 2008, the scheduled date for the OSE to provide the Nation with comments on the Preliminary

Hydrographic Survey Report and for the parties' counsel to inform the OSE and the Nation if they

intend to participate in field inspections. The Nation further requests that the Court extend, until

October 31, 2008, the scheduled date for the OSE to complete field inspections to the extent

necessary. Based on weather patterns in 2007 and in previous years, it is the parties' understanding

that it is reasonable to expect that weather will allow for field inspections of the Nation's Chama

lands throughout the entire month of October. However, it is also understood that if snow should

occur in October, then the OSE may be unable to complete any needed field inspections in calendar

year 2008.

Dated: December 21, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Noelle Graney

Susan G. Jordan Noelle Graney

NORDHAUS LAW FIRM, LLP

1239 Paseo de Peralta

Santa Fe, NM 87505

(505) 982-3622

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Jennifer J. Dumas NORDHAUS LAW FIRM, LLP 405 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., NE Albuquerque, NM 87102 (505) 243-4275

Attorneys for the Jicarilla Apache Nation

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on December 21, 2007, I filed the foregoing *Jicarilla Apache Nation's Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to Submit a Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report to the Office of the State Engineer* electronically through the CM/ECF system, which caused the following parties or counsel to be served by electronic means, as more fully reflected on the Notice of Electronic Filing:

#### David A. Benavides

davidb@nmlegalaid.org

# Leander Bergen

lbergen@nativeamericanlawyers.com

#### Frank M Bond

fbond@simonsfirm.com,ssandoval@simonsfirm.com,ggonzales@simonsfirm.com,fbond@mac.com

# **Bradley S. Bridgewater**

bradley.s.bridgewater@usdoj.gov,gary.durr@usdoj.gov,jennifer.vaughn2@usdoj.gov,yvonne.marsh@usdoj.gov

#### James C. Brockmann

jcbrockmann@newmexicowaterlaw.com

#### **Christina J Bruff**

cjb@lrpa-usa.com

#### Tessa T. Davidson

ttd@tessadavidson.com

#### Rebecca A. Dempsey

rdempsey@wkkm.com,fmtz@wkkm.com

#### **Charles T. DuMars**

ctd@lrpa-usa.com

#### Jennifer J Dumas

jdumas@nordhauslaw.com,mchavez@nordhauslaw.com

# Randolph B. Felker

randfelker@aol.com

# Jeffrey Fornaciari

jfornaciari@hinklelawfirm.com,mlara@hinklelawfirm.com

# Gary S. Friedman

gsf@chflaw.com

#### Vickie L. Gabin

vlgabin@nm.net

# **David W Gehlert**

david.gehlert@usdoj.gov,efile\_nrs.enrd@usdoj.gov,jennifer.vaughn2@usdoj.gov,judy.tet reault@usdoj.gov,lori.montano@usdoj.gov

# Ryan Margaret Golten

ryang@nmlegalaid.org

# **Noelle Graney**

ngraney@nordhauslaw.com,svelody@nordhauslaw.com

# Karla JaNelle Haught

janelle.haught@state.nm.us

#### Mary E. Humphrey

humphrey@newmex.com

#### Susan G Jordan

sjordan@nordhauslaw.com,vruiz@nordhauslaw.com

#### **Pierre Levy**

pierre@danieljofriel.com,melissa@danieljofriel.com,veronica@danieljofriel.com

# John F. McCarthy, Jr

jfmc@wkkm.com

#### David C Mielke

dmielke@abgsonosky.com,sdressler@abgsonosky.com

#### Edward G. Newville

ednewville@rgunwired.net,connie.flint@state.nm.us,marjorie.dryden@state.nm.us,fred.k ipnes@state.nm.us,hilario.rubio@state.nm.us

#### **Brett J Olsen**

brett olsen@msn.com

# Marcus J Rael, Jr

marcus@roblesrael.com,nicole@roblesrael.com,diane@roblesrael.com

# Walter L. Reardon, Jr

walter@reardonlawnm.com

# **Gregory C. Ridgley**

greg.ridgley@state.nm.us,marjorie.dryden@state.nm.us,vina.gallegos@state.nm.us

# **Arianne Singer**

arianne.singer@state.nm.us,lula.valdez@state.nm.us,connie.flint@state.nm.us,marjorie.d

ryden@state.nm.us,fred.kipnes@state.nm.us,vina.gallegos@state.nm.us

# Jay F Stein

jfstein@newmexicowaterlaw.com

# John W. Utton

jwu@ssslawfirm.com,lb@ssslawfirm.com,vaa@ssslawfirm.com,djs@ssslawfirm.com

# Timothy A Vollmann

tim\_vollmann@hotmail.com

# Fred Waltz

fwaltz@kitcarson.net,cortega@kitcarson.net

/s/Noelle Graney